



# BIG SANDY NEWS.

Aut inveniam viam, aut faciam.

To Correct  
Catarrh  
avoid  
snuffs and vapors,  
Nourish  
your system with  
Scott's  
Emulsion

Volume XXXI. Number 17.

LOUISA, LAWRENCE COUNTY, KENTUCKY, DECEMBER 24, 1915.

M. F. CONLEY, Publisher.

## FOUR DEATHS IN LOCAL FIELD THIS WEEK.

MRS. ADELINE RICE, AGE 81, DIES  
AT HOME NEAR  
LOUISA.

Mrs. Adeline Rice, one of the oldest and best known residents of this part of the county, died at her home near the mouth of Two Mile creek Tuesday night. She was buried near the old home Thursday afternoon, funeral services being conducted by Revs. French Rice and H. R. Hewlett. She was 81 years old, and leaves a large number of descendants and other relatives. She was a daughter of the late John Crabtree and widow of Jake Rice, a prominent lawyer and Mason, who at one time was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky.

Mrs. Rice had been in poor health for a number of years, more than once seemingly at the very door of death, but her demise was quite unexpected. She was fairly well for several days preceding her passing, but the last call was not long in being answered.

"Aunt Ad." was a familiar figure in life of her neighborhood, known to hundreds of people. Just now it is impossible to give fuller details, but they will be forthcoming.

James Gaines.

"Jamie" Gaines, son of Harmon and Panny Gaines, (both deceased) died Sunday, Dec. 19th, aged 29 years, 7 months and 5 days. The funeral services were held in the Hulet Branch school house, conducted by the Rev. L. M. Copley. Interment was made in the Gaines burial ground, Fallsburg, with the honors of Odd Fellowship. The deceased was unmarried.

Mrs. Cora Hutchison Pigg.

On Monday night last Mrs. James O. Pigg, aged about 32 years, died at her home near the mouth of Little Blaine. Interment was made in the Hutchison graveyard on Wednesday morning, after services conducted by the Revs. Lindsay and William Copley. The deceased is survived by her husband and three children. Details later.

Mrs. Mary Parsons.

Mrs. Mary Parsons died suddenly at the home of Wm. Huff, on East Fork, in this county, on Wednesday night of this week. The time of her death is not known, as it occurred in bed, long after all had retired. Mrs. Parsons had lived with this family for a long time. A child was sleeping with her at the time of her death and it was the crying of this child that finally took some member of the family to the bedside. It was then discovered that Mrs. Parsons was dead. She was past middle age.

YOUNG LAWRENCE COUNTY  
LAWYER MAKING HIS MARK.

The Winchester Democrat says: The most important case that will come before the Circuit Court during its present December term, in fact the only real interesting trial on the docket for this term, is the case of the Commonwealth vs. James A. Wallace which was transferred to this county from Estill county on a change of venue. This case will be called on Tuesday, December 21, at 9 a. m., and it is expected that the entire day will be consumed in its hearing as there are a great number of witnesses subpoenaed for both the Commonwealth and the defendant.

This case arose out of the Wallace-Chaney-Underwood assassination at Irvine, Kentucky, last February. Houston Underwood was called to his door, according to the testimony introduced by the Commonwealth, and was killed. For this killing T. Q. Wallace, a brother of James A., and Frank Chaney were convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment in the penitentiary at Frankfort and this sentence was appealed by the defendants but was affirmed last week by the Court of Appeals.

The Wallace family is a prominent and wealthy one of Central Kentucky. The defendant, James A. Wallace, is a wealthy banker and farmer and is reputed to be the wealthiest man in Estill county. He was a candidate in the Republican primary of this year for State Treasurer and made a splendid race. He has retained as his counsel for his trial, Attorney Herbert H. Moore, of the local bar, who although a very young man is fast taking rank as one of the ablest and most eloquent attorneys of the State.

GASOLINE PLANT  
FOR CATLETTSBURG.

A one hundred thousand dollar purchasing plant which will manufacture gasoline and other petroleum by-products and which will employ in the neighborhood of one hundred men will be erected as soon as possible just above Catlettsburg.

The land for the plant has already been purchased and application was made this morning for permission to lay a switch across the county road. Several Huntington men and eastern capitalists, whose names are withheld at the present have purchased eleven acres of ground across from the large pumping station of the United Fuel Gas Company, paying \$2500 for the same. The land was purchased of Mr. Mackney, who formerly engaged in the hotel business in Catlettsburg.

The demand for gasoline is very heavy and the price has gone up to twenty cents.

Born, Thursday, to Milt Diamond and wife, a son.

## ILLITERACY COMMISSION WILL ASK FOR STATE AID.

The Kentucky Illiteracy Commission will ask the legislature for an appropriation of \$20,000 to carry on its work for the next four years, or until the legislature of 1920 assembles. Mrs. Cora Wilson Stewart, president of the commission, was in Lexington yesterday and said that, in her opinion, the value of the work has been demonstrated, since sixteen states had followed the lead of Kentucky in the movement to eradicate illiteracy and the question of its continuance, she added, was now up to the legislature.

The members of the commission receive no salary and even pay their own expenses and Mrs. Stewart for two years has devoted her private means to the work, whose only financial backing has been the donations and subscriptions of public-spirited men and women of Kentucky. She also praised the unselfish work of the teachers who have given their time to the moonlight schools and expressed gratitude for the assistance rendered by the Kentucky Press, which has been unanimous in its advocacy of the moonlight school work and which, she said, had been of inestimable value to the movement.

"I am quite sure that Governor Stanley is friendly to our work," said Mrs. Stewart, "for he defended ably the action of the McCleary administration in establishing the commission while making his winning campaign for Governor and gave our work high praise. We hope to have his earnest and efficient support. We also are assured of the support of the press, which has been no small factor in the success of the movement so far."

## ASHLAND MAN'S APPLICATION FOR POSTMASTERSHIP FILED.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Application of Cyrus M. Preston, a miller of Ashland, for postmaster, was filed at the Post-office Department to-day by Judge J. F. Hager, also of Ashland. In addition to Mr. Preston's formal application Judge Hager presented a petition of citizens of Ashland in behalf of the candidate, and stated that Mr. Preston had the endorsement of Representative W. J. Fields and both Senators from Kentucky.

## SUFFOCATED BY FUMES OF GAS.

EDWIN CASTLE, DEAF MUTE OF  
PAINTSVILLE, DIES AT  
HUNTINGTON.

Fumes from burned gas were responsible for the death of E. E. R. Castle, 35 years old, of Paintsville, who was found in his room at a local hotel Sunday morning.

Castle is supposed to have turned the gas fire too high when he laid down across his bed Saturday night. In the morning the gas fumes were detected in the hall of the hotel by a chamber maid and an investigation made.

The heat of the room was so intense that the door knob of the room was almost too hot to hold. The body was prepared for burial at the Johnston Undertaking morgue and shipped to Paintsville for burial.

Castle's people are engaged in the undertaking business at Paintsville, being survived by a father and several brothers and sisters.—Herald-Dispatch.

## TRAIN FROM MOUNTAINS TWELVE HOURS LATE.

Lexington, Ky., Dec. 20.—The passenger train on the L. & E. from McRoberts, due to arrive at 2:20 o'clock yesterday afternoon, did not reach here till 1:45 o'clock this morning eleven hours and twenty-five minutes late, and the passengers, who had been twenty hours and five minutes on the road, and had to subsist on cheese and crackers and similar articles which they could buy at the mountain stores, and could only catch what sleep they could get in the seats, were almost exhausted. The run is usually made in eight hours and forty minutes. The delay was caused by washouts and floods, which extend all through Eastern Kentucky.

## CONDUCTED FUNERAL.

Rev. R. French Rice, called on friends here Monday and went to Huntington to visit Jacob Rice, also his daughter, Mrs. Sam Wheeler. Rev. Rice was called here to conduct the funeral of James David Rice which occurred at his home at Normal Monday. Decedent was fifty-three years old. He is survived by a wife, one son and four daughters. He has been ill for a long time and was an earnest christian. He was a half brother of Ed. Bas and French Rice of this city. Burial took place in the Neal Grave Yard, near the South Side.—Catlettsburg Dept. Independent.

## KENTUCKY PETROLEUM REACHES RECORD MARK.

PRICE IS TWICE THAT OF ONE  
YEAR AGO FOR CRUDE  
OIL.

Barbourville, Ky., Dec. 19.—Kentucky petroleum received another boost during the week just closed, with marked advances of 5 and 2 cents a barrel on the light and heavy grades, respectively. Fields embraced in Wayne, Lawrence, Morgan and Wolfe counties are included in the 5-cent advance, the 2-cent advance applying to the production of the Bath-Rowan field. The small independent production of scattered districts are also benefited by the rising market.

Kentucky's better grade production, which includes nine-tenths of the total yield, now commands \$1.55 a barrel, an advance during the past six months of 75 cents a barrel. The prevailing quotation is the best ever made on Kentucky petroleum. Operators, realizing just about twice for their production over the figures of last spring, are on edge for the further prosecution of development.

Bad weather, with floods in the lowlands, has somewhat retarded the movement of the drill during the past week, with few completions reported, and little activity shown in the starting of new tests. As it is, however, more rigs are in operation than ever the number in commission totaling nearly forty.

The week's completed work includes three producers in Wayne-co., with an aggregate yield of thirty barrels; one in Lawrence-co., producing ten barrels; a strike similar capacity in Wolfe-co., and a brace of completions in Scott-co., one a failure and the other a moderate producer. In new work under way a dozen or more Kentucky-Tennessee counties are included.

The chances for a great revival of activity in the Kentucky-Tennessee fields are increased by the combination of high prices and promising territory. In new work planned a number of tests will be drilled between Wayne-co., Kentucky, and the Oneda pool of Scott-co., Tennessee, a virgin territory of twenty miles' extent. A half dozen deep wells will be drilled between the old Knox and Whites pools. Other proposed work includes several tests for the Big Sandy country bordering West Virginia. Allen county operators are making preparations to start new work, while activity is on the increase in the old Estill-co. field.

## APPEAL IS TAKEN IN BIG LAND CASE.

The appeal in the bitterly contested litigation of Joseph H. and John B. Smith vs. the Kentland Coal and Coke Company, Alma Coal Company, James E. and Charles E. Heller, was filed in the United States circuit of appeals here from the United States district court at Catlettsburg, Ky.

The appeal is taken from the decree of United States District Judge Cochran, refusing to decree the Esteps to be the owners of the coal and mineral rights to certain extensive lands in Pike-co., Ky., held by the Kentland Coal and Coke Company.

The Esteps alleged that they had received the deed to the land from their father, and that after the deed was made it was tampered with in that a clause exempting the coal and the mineral rights had been forged into the deed.—Lexington Leader.

## UNKNOWN HERO GOES TO HIS DEATH.

An unknown hero went to his death in the swirling waters of the Guyandotte river at nine o'clock yesterday morning when the new steel bridge at Ranger, Lincoln-co., collapsed.

Standing in the center of the main span, he was working desperately to save at least a part of the structure, when an avalanche of logs, riding the crest of a freshet, came hurtling down upon him.

In a twinkling, as it were, he disappeared in a maelstrom of twisted iron, splintered wood and yellow water.

The stranger had refused to heed the early Ford creek train to be held by bridge workers who had fled for their lives to the shore.

## SAD DEATH OF WELL KNOWN PIKE COUNTY LADY.

News reached the city to-day of the death of Mrs. Talby Smith at Pinson Fork, Ky. Mr. Talby Smith is a well known business man in Pike-co. and also in Mingo. Mrs. Smith was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John May, of Pinson Fork. She was only nineteen years of age. Mrs. Smith had two children, one two years old and a three months old baby. Her death was a shock to her numerous friends here in Williamson and in Pike-co., as no one knew she was so ill. Quite a number of friends from Williamson went on the early Ford creek train to attend the funeral and burial services to be held at the family cemetery near Peg, Ky., to-day. The many friends of the bereaved family extend to them their sympathy.—Williamson News.

## BIG RISE IN THE RIVER.

The heavy rains of last week caused the Big Sandy to reach the 35 foot mark. Part of the flood came quite unexpectedly, but no damage was caused by it here. A very large number of rafts and loose timber passed this point but no statistics as to quantity are now available.

## FIELDS FINDS SENTIMENT FOR DEFENSE PROGRAMME.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Representative W. J. Fields, member of the Committee on Military Affairs, who returned here to-day from Catlettsburg, is convinced that the country is in sympathy with the national preparedness programme of President Wilson. He came to this conclusion after taking a poll of the thirty-five men aboard the three sleeping cars attached to Chesapeake & Ohio train No. 2, that arrived here this morning.

"On my way up from Kentucky, I carefully questioned each man in the Pullman cars," explained the Kentucky man. "Thirty of the thirty-five men, seven of whom are traveling salesmen and have been in nearly every State in the Union in the last few weeks, said they found overwhelming sentiment in favor of national preparedness. Two men told me they found that sentiment for and against increased armaments was about equally divided and three said their observation was that public opinion seemed to be against the national defense program. The men were from Kentucky, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, Illinois, Michigan, California and Alabama. The politics of these men was nearly equally divided."

## REV. AKERS SICK.

It is reported that Rev. B. S. Akers, of Ceredo is seriously ill at his home. He is well known to the people of every section of this county, having held revivals or conducted funerals in most parts of the county. He is a minister of the Baptist denomination and holds license in Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia to solemnize the rites of matrimony.

His many friends and relatives will hear with deep regret the sad news of his affliction.—Wayne News.

## MRS. MARCUM BETTER.

Mrs. John S. Marcum, one of Huntington's best known women, whose serious illness was announced yesterday, is now much improved. She has been suffering from a severe attack of grip and for a time it was feared that she might develop pneumonia.—Huntington-Herald Dispatch.

## \$10,000 FROM THE TITANIC COMPANY

SETTLEMENT WITH MRS. ELOISE  
HUGHES DANIEL PROBABLE  
ON THIS BASIS.

Mrs. Robert W. Daniel, of Philadelphia, nee Mrs. Mary Eloise Hughes Smith, of Huntington, sister of Mrs. Harold Vansant, of Ashland, will receive approximately \$10,000 from the White Star Line in settlement of her claim for damages caused by the sinking of the Titanic, on April 15, 1912, according to estimates based on advice received from New York through the Associated Press. Mrs. Daniel, then a bride of a few weeks, was a passenger on the Titanic when the great vessel sank after striking an iceberg in the North Atlantic, and her young husband, Lucien P. Smith, of Uniontown, Pa., was among those who perished. They were on their way home from Egypt which they visited on their honeymoon journey. The bride was saved and afterwards bore a posthumous heir, Lucien P. Smith, Jr. It was prior to the birth of her son that she filed a claim against the White Star Company for \$50,000, demanding \$25,000 for personal and punitive damages. Recently she was offered \$7,000 in settlement of her claims against the White Star Line but is understood to have refused to accept this amount. Relatives indicated the opinion that if the offer approximately \$10,000 Mrs. Daniel would accept.

She is no longer a resident of Huntington, having married last year to Robert W. Daniel, of Philadelphia, who was also a passenger on the Titanic and who was picked up out of the sea by a life buoy after he had fallen from the ill-fated ship. She is expected here next week to spend the holidays with her parents, Hon. and Mrs. James A. Hughes at their residence in Westmoreland.—Herald-Dispatch.

## BADLY BURNED.

Late on last Monday afternoon Dr. J. L. Wellman received a call to go to the home of William Hall, who lives on Rockcastle creek, near the mouth of Big Laurel, to attend some men who had been badly burned. He went up as soon as possible and rendered the necessary aid. The two men, with a couple of others, had been pumping oil at the Cumberland Pipe line, and had gotten into a boat to cross the creek and go to the place where they boarded. Some oil had escaped into the creek, and one of the men said he would see if the stuff would burn. He was told that it would be dangerous, but he struck a match and threw it into the water. Instantly an explosion followed, and two men were seriously burned. The worst injured is Homer Whitl, of Salsersville. The other man, whose name could not be learned, is not so badly burned. Arnett's back and the lower part of his body are almost a mass of burns. He will recover.

## OIL GOES TO \$1.55.

Oil has advanced five cents per barrel in Kentucky within the last few days, making the price \$1.55. Development is being stimulated to a considerable extent in the various fields.

## WORKING CONVICTS ON THE PUBLIC ROADS.

INTERVIEW WITH CHAIRMAN OF  
PRISON COMMISSION ON  
THIS SUBJECT.

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 21.—Only one prison will be needed in Kentucky if the convict labor amendment is properly put into execution by the State Government, in the opinion of Daniel E. O'Sullivan, chairman of the Prison Commission, in a statement on this subject to-day, in which he declares he voices only his personal opinion. He said in part:

"With the exception of the tax and debt problem, the most important question that confronts Gov. Stanley and the General Assembly is the matter of convict labor."

"The members of the Legislature, no matter how earnest or intelligent, will not be prepared to pass an adequate law until they have acquainted themselves with the experience of other States. The success of road building with convict labor must be determined by the needs of the particular locality, its ability to finance the work, the material that the various counties are able to supply and the climatic conditions, which, after all, may be the determining factor. In Georgia, for instance, where an admirable system of roads is being built with convict labor, the prisoners work every day in the year, while in Kentucky the season for outdoor work would not exceed nine months. What is going to be done with the men during this period?"

Manufacturing Suggested.

"Some will say return them to the prisons and put them to work making various articles for State use. That is a good suggestion if it can be worked out practically. If the State thus goes into the manufacturing business it will have to provide machinery and expert foremen to teach the men the particular trade they must learn before their work will be of value. It will be asked how the convict can become an expert mechanic in three months, after spending nine months of the year quarrying rock or working on the roads? That is a question the Legislature and the new Prison Commissioners must answer."

It is agreed that only a certain percentage of the convicts can be trusted in prison camps and on public roads without being worked in chains. In some States all the prisoners are worked in the open; in other States the men are carefully selected by the warden, and, even then, many of them escape. Kentucky can only learn by experience. Often life-men can be trusted outside the walls without guards when a petty thief, or housebreaker, could not be trusted at all. The personal equation must be considered in dealing with convicts. Those guilty of the worst crimes frequently have a high sense of humor.

## Other States Visited.

"Two years ago the Prison Commissioners visited the States of Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia and made a thorough study of the convict on the road problem as it was being worked out in those States. We have gathered full information from the other States where the contract labor system in prisons has been abolished. These facts are too voluminous to be embodied in this brief statement, but we will be glad to co-operate with Gov. Stanley and the coming General Assembly in any plans they may have for writing into the laws of the State the mandate of the Constitution, and will furnish them with all the information in our possession, together with our individual views on convict labor gained from more than three years' experience."

"Owing to the contracts now in force there will be only a few hundred men who can be worked on the public roads in 1916 and they will not be available until July or August. In the summer of 1917 all contracts for prison labor will have expired save the Hoge-Montgomery contract for the labor of 400 prisoners, which will remain in force until January, 1919, under a contract made with the former prison population, with the exception of the 400 held by the above contract, to be assigned to road work, or within the prison walls manufacturing articles for the State."

## Must Devise Plan.

"The coming Legislature must devise a plan that will keep approximately 1,800 prisoners profitably employed. The Prison Commissioners derive their power from the General Assembly and whatever laws are passed on this subject must be comprehensive. This is a good place to say that the laws now on the statute books governing the prisoners are inadequate, carelessly written, often contradictory, and very much in need of complete revision."

"If great care is not shown the change from the contract system will entail great loss on the State. The average yearly expense of running the two prisons is as follows: Frankfort reformatory, \$125,000; Eddyville penitentiary, \$125,000. The question arises as to whether it is necessary to maintain two prisons when the convicts are placed on the road? At Frankfort the population is over 1,400, but when the road camps are established there will be only 400 men under contract there, and such other prisoners as are employed in the kitchens, dining-rooms, etc. This will leave room for fully 900 men. At Eddyville there will be no men under contract."

## The Business Way.

"If the State was run as a business enterprise by business men, at the first

meeting of the board of directors the order would go out to reduce expenses by closing one of the prisons, and save the State at least \$75,000 a year. This suggestion will naturally not be received with favor either at Eddyville or Frankfort. However, it is plain that when the convicts are put on the roads we will need only one prison. It is up to the Legislature to find a way out of the difficulty.

"From the short conference I have had with Gov. Stanley I feel confident that he will bring to the prison problem an inquiring, trained mind and a sincere purpose to deal with it as a business proposition, without reference to any political expediency that may arise. He is going to demand efficiency in every department, and his present plans are as comprehensive as they are practical."

## DEFUNCT BANK WILL MAKE DISTRIBUTION.

The best news which the Independent has been able to hand its readers in a long while will be contained in the following little item:

Mr. John Russell, who is in charge of the affairs of the Citizens Bank & Trust Co., telephoned us this morning that he wanted us to please state in the Independent to-day that the third distribution of 25 per cent would be paid to the depositors of the Citizens Bank & Trust Co. on Wednesday, January 5, 1916. He also said that this would mean the distribution of something over \$90,000 on this date.

This makes the third distribution of 25 per cent or 75 per cent all told, that has been paid by the Citizens Bank. This would indicate that the depositors in this bank will all be pretty well paid by the time its affairs are entirely closed up. The men in charge of its affairs, Mr. Chas. Russell, Special Deputy Banking Commissioner, his assistant, Mr. John Russell, and their legal adviser Judge John F. Hager, are all to be complimented for the splendid manner in which the affairs of this bank have been handled. The payment of \$90,000 to the people of Ashland and surrounding community will be a splendid New Year's present and will start the new year in Ashland with such a boom that we feel it will continue for the entire period of 1916.—Ashland Independent.

## RUMORS OF NEW RAILROAD IN VALLEY

BALTIMORE & OHIO ENGINEERS  
AT WORK ON BIG SANDY  
RIVER SURVEY.

The B. & O. railroad has a corps of engineers at work along the Levisa fork of Big Sandy river, in the vicinity of Pikeville. They are working down the river. It is reported that some rights of way have been purchased near the mouth of Shelby.

Rumors of the building of a line from Shelby to the Ohio river, or at least to a connection at Louisa, are very persistent.

A route along this entire valley is planned and on file in the clerks offices of the various counties, and the rights thus assured belong to the B. & O. railroad. This company has purchased rights of way at various places along this route. The line from the mouth of Shelby to Jenkins, 25 miles, is owned by the B. & O. These and other facts are very strong grounds for the belief that the Baltimore & Ohio will construct its own line along the Big Sandy.

The great coal fields of this valley will furnish all the business that can be handled by two lines.

## SEEK TO ENLARGE C. & O. HOSPITAL.

Chesapeake & Ohio officials are considering an enlargement to the local railway hospital. It was learned from authentic sources yesterday, although no statement was made as to the extent of the improvements. Hospital authorities admit the necessity for the enlargement.

President George W. Stevens, of the railway and W. T. Oppenheim, of Richmond, chief of the medical staff, will be in Huntington Friday on a general inspection. They will visit the hospital.

The high officials will look over the hospital at this time with a view to considering the advisability and possibility of improvements as contemplated. Other members of the medical corps will be here Friday.—Huntington Herald-Dispatch.

President Stevens and the directors of the C. & O. went to Shelby Saturday night and returned Sunday to Ashland.

## PRIZE FOR AN ASHLAND GIRL.

Miss Helene Hackworth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Hackworth, of this city, made quite a hit in Huntington last night in her debut part as Josephine in the Opera "Pinafore" at the Hippodrome Theater. Some of the best musicians in this section took part, but Miss Hackworth was equal to the occasion and did her part well. In speaking of it the Herald-Dispatch says:

"Miss Helene Hackworth, of Ashland, as Josephine, won bright laurels. Miss Hackworth has a rich soprano voice of perfect clarity and a range and flexibility which difficult passages in a satisfying manner. Her singing was one of the most pleasing parts of the performance."

Miss Helene's mother was before marriage Miss Florida Eves, a popular Louisa girl.